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IN THE CLAIMS

1 – 33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) ~~In a vehicle-mounted video surveillance system including a video recording device, a~~ A vehicle-mounted base station for use in a vehicle-mounted surveillance system including a video recording device and for use with a wireless microphone, the wireless microphone being operational-mode switchable in response to an RF activation signal, comprising:

an input coupled to receive an operational status signal from the video surveillance system indicative of an operational status of the video recording device;

a controller coupled to the input to receive the operational status signal and for generating an RF activation signal when the operational status signal indicates that the video recording device is in recording mode; and

an RF transmitter arranged for transmitting the RF activation signal to the wireless microphone to switch the wireless microphone into a transmit mode from a standby mode.

35. (Original) The vehicle-mounted base station of claim 34 including a visual indicator for indicating of a state of battery charge of a battery disposed within the wireless microphone.

36. (Original) The vehicle-mounted base station of claim 34 including a visual indicator for indicating a successful exchange of a security code between the wireless microphone and the vehicle-mounted base station.

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37. (Currently Amended) ~~In a vehicle-mounted video surveillance system including a video recording device, a~~ A method of operating a vehicle-mounted base station for use in a vehicle-mounted video surveillance system including a video recording device and for use with a bi-directional wireless microphone, the bi-directional wireless microphone being operational mode-switchable in response to an RF activation signal, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving an operational status signal from the video surveillance system indicative of an operational status of the video recording device; and

generating an RF activation signal when the operational status signal indicates that the video recording device is in recording mode;

transmitting the RF activation signal to the bi-directional wireless microphone to switch the wireless microphone into an audio transmission mode.

38. (Original) The method of claim 37 including the further step of indicating a state of battery charge of a battery disposed within the wireless microphone.

39. (Original) The method of claim 37 including the further step of indicating a successful exchange of a security code between the wireless microphone and the vehicle-mounted base station.

40 – 49. (Canceled)

50. (Previously Presented) The vehicle-mounted base station of claim 34 wherein the video recording device is selected from the group consisting of tape recorders, video cassette recorders, hard-disk drives, electronic memory, or optical drives.

51. (Previously Presented) The vehicle-mounted base station of claim 34 wherein the RF transmitter transmits using a digital spread spectrum transmission technique.

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52. (Previously Presented) The vehicle-mounted base station of claim 51 wherein the digital spread spectrum transmission technique is selected from the group consisting of frequency hopping or direct sequence.

53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37 including the step of automatically placing the video recording device into the recording mode upon actuation of an emergency system of the vehicle.

54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37 wherein the video recording device is selected from the group consisting of tape recorders, video cassette recorders, hard-disk drives, electronic memory, or optical drives.